

Foreign Agricultural Service *GAIN* Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

GAIN Report #RO8040

Date: 12/21/1998

Romania

Oilseeds and Products Oilseed Update December 1998

Prepared by:

Jamie Rothschild U.S. Embassy Drafted by: Anton Pavel

Report Highlights:

Romania's 1998 oilseed production is currently estimated by AgBucharest at 970,000 MT of sunflowerseeds and 200,000 MT of soybeans, unchanged from our November estimate. AgOffice Bucharest estimates that Romania will export about 100,000 MT of oil during the 1998/1999 marketing year.

AgBucharest suggests to maintain its November estimates for both sunflowerseeds and soybeans. Recent information available to AgBucharest indicate that our current oilseed estimates are in line with what the private sector is carrying.

Recent information on the proposed barter deal with Russia indicates that there are very remote chances that this deal will be finalized. The lack of agreement on sovereign guarantees, credit availability and high prices of Romanian commodities will probably preclude any agreement. Therefore, AgBucharest estimates that Romania will export during the 1998/1999 marketing year only oil. The export oil surplus is currently estimated at about 100,000 MT.

Romanian Oilseed Production Estimates (1,000 HA; 1,000 MT):

Crop	Harvested Area	Production
------	----------------	------------

	1996	1997	1998	1996	1997	1998
Sunflowers seed	910	778	820	1,180	858	970
Soybean	80	61	140	115	121	200